



Coordinated by Comunidades Unidas www.cuutah.org (801) 566-6191 & funded by the Utah Department of Health, Center for Multicultural Health

MISSION: The mission of the Multicultural Health Network (MHN) is to eliminate health disparities and improve health outcomes for Utah's ethnic minority communities through public/private sector partnerships.

HISTORY

In November of 2003, Utah Issues, a non-profit organization, and a group of advocates organized a summit for health providers, state and local health departments, community advocates, and policymakers to address health disparities in the state of Utah. The summit produced several recommendations for building Utah's capacity to eliminate health disparities.

Top Recommendations:

1. Re-establish a new *Center for Multicultural Health* (CMH). Through the collaborative efforts of summit planners and participants, the Utah State Legislature appropriated \$100,000 to establish the CMH.
2. Formalize a community based coalition or network dedicated to improving the health status of Utah's ethnic and racial minorities known as the *Multicultural Health Network* (MHN).
 - In September of 2006, *Comunidades Unidas*, a non-profit grass root organization, became MHN's fiscal and facilitating agent and subcontracted the *Utah Health Policy Project* to combine forces and provide the leadership and vision needed to eliminate health disparities in Utah.



The Multicultural Health Network currently has a listserv of over 500 members representing the public, private and non-profit sectors. Most of our work is done through our 3 work group committees focused on eliminating health disparities through targeted focus areas, which includes a Policy/Coverage/Access Committee, a Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Committee, and a Data/Research Committee. Each committee recently reported on their work at our 4th *Annual Health Disparities Conference* held on August 10th at the Radisson Hotel in Downtown Salt Lake City (for conference details go to www.health.utah.gov/cmh and click on the 'Multicultural Health Network' link).

MHN is currently accepting nominations for ethnic representatives who are active in their communities and passionate about their communities' current health issues to serve on our Steering/Leadership Committee.

To participate in the Multicultural Health Network or if you would like to nominate someone for our Steering committee please contact Isabel Rojas at Isabel@cuutah.org or 801-566-6191.